

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 50, line 35 change "with all possible ranks." to:

--with all possible ranks; and--

In claim 52, line 8 change "directly;" to:

--"directly; and--

In claim 53, line 39 change "(neuron position, input vector value);" to:

--(neuron position, input vector value); and--

In claim 55, line 15 change "old weight by this function;" to:

--old weight by this function; and--

Response to Amendment

2. The amendment was received on 4/19/10. Claims 50,52,53 and 55 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

3. The claims have been reviewed under 35 USC 101. The independent claims inherently require a machine given the complexity of the art and claim language such as "computing" that implies a computer as described in the preamble.

Claim Objections

4. Due to the amendment, the claims objections are withdrawn.

Specification

5. The clean and mark-up versions of the specification are acceptable. The specification has been reviewed for new matter since the specification has been amended in many areas. The amended portions find support in application 60/296,245 that is claimed as a benefit of the instant application, provide background information, are reworded, and provide examples that are not considered new matter.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 50,52,53 and 55 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 50,52,53 and 55 are allowed for the same reasons as the office action of 3/23/10 all of which is incorporated herein.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DENNIS ROSARIO whose telephone number is (571)272-7397. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Bella can be reached on (571)272-7778. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Matthew C Bella/
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